CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining the effectiveness of a composition to inhibit herpes simplex virus infection reactivation, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining one or more animals;

b) creating an abrasion on the animal;

c) inoculating the animal with herpes simplex virus by application of a composition comprising herpes simplex virus to the abrasion, thereby resulting in a primary herpes simplex virus infection in the animal;

d) allowing the abrasion to heal and the primary herpes simplex virus infection to resolve;

e) administering a composition to be tested for inhibition of herpes simplex virus infection reactivation to the animal;

f) exposing the area of abrasion to radiation; and

g) determining whether the herpes simplex virus infection is reactivated.

2. A method of determining the effectiveness of a composition to inhibit herpes simplex virus infection, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining one or more animals;

b) administering a composition to be tested for inhibition of herpes simplex virus infection to the animal;

c) creating an abrasion on the animal;

d) inoculating the animal with herpes simplex virus by application of a composition comprising herpes simplex virus to the abrasion; and

e) determining whether a herpes simplex virus infection resulted.

3. A method of determining the effectiveness of a composition to provide central nervous system protecti n, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining one or more animals;

b) administering a composition to be tested to the animal;

c) creating an abrasion on the animal;

d) inoculating the animal with sufficient herpes simplex virus to induce central nervous system damage by application of a composition comprising herpes simplex virus to the abrasion; and

e) determining whether central nervous system damage resulted.

4. A method of determining an effective dose of a composition to inhibit herpes simplex virus reactivation, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining two or more animals;

b) creating an abrasion on each animal;

c) inoculating each animal with herpes simplex virus by application of a composition comprising herpes simplex virus to the abrasion, thereby resulting in a primary herpes simplex virus infection in each animal;

d) allowing the abrasion of each animal to heal and the primary herpes simplex virus infection to resolve;

e) administering to each animal a selected dose of a composition to inhibit herpes simplex virus infection reactivation;

f) exposing the area of abrasion of each animal to radiation; and

g) determining the rate of reactiviation of the herpes simplex virus infection for each selected dose.

5. A method of det rmining the effectiveness of an ultraviolet protectant, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining one or more animals;

b) creating one or more abrasions on the animal;

c) inoculating the animal with herpes simplex virus by application of a composition comprising herpes simplex virus to the abrasion, thereby resulting in a primary herpes simplex virus infection in the animal;

d) allowing the abrasion to heal and the primary herpes simplex virus infection to resolve;

e) administering an ultraviolet protectant to the animal;

f) exposing the area of abrasion to ultraviolet radiation; and

g) determining whether the herpes simplex virus infection is reactivated.

6. The methods of any of claims 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 wherein the abrasion is a superficial dermabrasion.

7. The methods of any of claims 1 or 4 wherein the radiation is ultraviolet radiation, and is preferably a dose of two MED of ultraviolet-B radiation or solar spectrum ultraviolet radiation.

8. The method of any of claims 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 wherein the herpes simplex virus is herpes simples virus-1 (HSV-1) or herpes simples virus-2 (HSV-2).

9. The method of any of claims 1, 2 or 4 wherein the herpes simplex virus is a strain isolated from a patient to be treated with a composition to inhibit herpes simplex virus infection reactivation.

10. The method of any of claims 1, 2, 4 or 5 wherein the quantity of HSV applied to the abrasion results in death of approximately 50% of animals administered said quantity of HSV, and is preferably at least one-half log less than the quantity of HSV which results in death of 50% of the animals.

11. The method of any of claims 1, 4 or 5, further comprising the step of determining the severity and duration of herpes simplex virus reactivation infection.

12. The method of claim 4, wherein at least two different selected doses are employed, with each animal administered one selected dose.

13. The method of claim 4, wherein the composition to inhibit herpes simplex virus infection reactivation comprises one or more active ingredients, and the quantity of active ingredient for each selected dose is varied.

14. The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

f) allowing the abrasion to heal;

g) exposing the area of abrasion to ultraviolet radiation; and

h) determining whether a herpes simplex virus infection is reactivated.

15. The method of claim 5, wherein the ultraviolet protectant is a topical composition administered to at least one area of abrasion of the animal.